Spare Change

songs of the streets

Helping People Help Themselves



POET MARDGE KELLY: "OH FREEDOM WHERE ARE YOU"

"Money may not but leive, and they often

AUDITION See the centre pages (6-

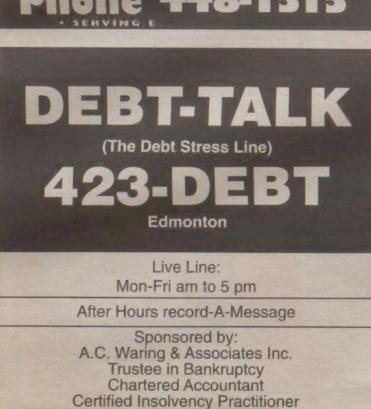


YOUR VENDOR PAYS UP TO 60¢ PER COPY OF SPARE CHANGE . PLEASE BUY FROM BADGED VENDORS





BOARDROOM • ENTERTAINMENT CENTRES



· Confidential · Professional · Free Consultation



Beware large gift-wrapped packages

People have been getting bizarre presents. In France Thierry Blanc, of Marseilles, has received a gift-wrapped tube of hemorrhoid cream every day for the last year. "Each morning I open the door and there it is," explained Mr Blanc. "I'm so confused that I've developed piles." Still more baffled was Mrs Babska Skevic, of Volgograd, who received a dead ex-husband with a ribbon around him. The trouble started when Arnold Skevic decided to surprise his estranged wife on her 60th birthday. With the help of two friends he stripped naked, tied a bow around his penis

and was then packed in a large box which was conveyed to the local post office. Unfortunately, postal workers chose that day to go on strike, leaving the gift-wrapped Mr Skevic for three weeks in a sorting office before he was eventually delivered, by which point he had suffocated. "A beautiful present arrived on my doorstep," recalled Mrs Skevic. "so I ripped off the paper and there was Arnold, nude, with a mouth full of polystyrene balls. Frankly I would have preferred a rowing machine." *



SPARE

CHANGE FEBRUARY IS

Oniontoe's time travel is up in smoke

Good news for budding Dr Whos, with new research suggesting that time travel might be possible. Apparently the universe is full of tine time warps, called wormholes, which lead backwards into history. "The problem," admitted one expert, "is that wormholes are a billion times smaller than an atom, so you'd have to be pretty small to get in one." No such worries for American inventor Slattery Oniontoe, of Dakota, who recently travelled in the world's first operational time machine. Fuelled by tiquid nitrogen and based on principles of quantum physics "that simply can't be explained to normal

people," Mr Oniontoe's creation took nine years to perfect before it was ready for its first test.

"I got inside and programmed it to take me to classical Rome," explained the intrepid inventor.

"There was a huge bang and I passed out, and when I came to, the whole world seemed to be on fire." Convinced he had arrived in ancient Pompeii during the eruption of Vesuvius Mr Oniontoe huddled in a corner screaming "I come in peace!" in Latin before firefighters kicked down the door and carried him to safety. "Last year he built an atom bomb out of egg boxes," recalled the inventor's exasperated wife. *

Don't mess with the scent of mountains

Thieves have been committing robberies armed with a range of toilet equipment. In Norfolk, father-of-two Paul Smerville, 34, held up a supermarket armed with a toilet duck. "It was a scent of mountain pines duck," recalled one cashier. "You don't mess with that." In Spain, meanwhile, a bank robber went one step further, threatening staff with an entire toilet. Clutching his porcelain lavatory bowl Pepe Cortes, 39, approached cashiers at the Madrid bank and threatened to throw it at them unless they filled

it with money. "It was a huge thing," recalled one cashier, "with a wooden seat. I didn't fancy getting crushed by a loo, so I did what he asked." Unbeknown to Mr Cortes, however, staff had activated a hidden alarm, and when he left the bank he was confronted by 20 armed police, who ordered him to "drop your toilet and squat beside it." "He kept threatening to flush the money away unless we let him go," explained one detective. "He was clearly a complete and utter fruit-job." *

Hazards of the large body guards

Although ostensibly there to protect you, body-guards often have quite the opposite effect. Witness events in Russia, where politician Sergei Markdonov was accidentally shot by his guard. "He pointed his gun at Sergei and said 'This could save your life'," explained an eyewitness. "And then it went off." A similar mishap occurred in Brazil, where businessman Jose Siguel was suffocated by his 280 pound bodyguard, Carlo. The tragedy happened during a shopping expedition in Reciafe, when Carlo mistook a store assistant with feather duster for

an assassin. "Carlo cried, `Attack!' and pushed Jose onto the floor behind a counter," explained a distraught Mrs Siguel, "Then he lay on top of him and shot at anyone who came near." Despite Mr Siguel's efforts to push Carlo away the latter refused to budge, and it was only when he stood up 10 minutes later that it was discovered his employer had suffocated beneath his belly. He is now taking Mrs Siguel to court, claiming it was her cooking that made him fat in the first place. •

Above articles compiled by Paul Sussman in The Big Issue, London England's street-sold magazine.

VENDOR · Profile

Donna Randle

Donna's cheerful smile is a joy to many who pass by her selling the newspaper on the northwest corner of 101 St. and Jasper Ave. in Edmonton. Donna smiles up at people from her wheelchair where she's been all her life. She was born with Cerebral Palsy and growing up was very difficult with little support from her family, she says. Her life was full of anguish. She experienced abusive treatment from her mother many times. "I tough, I fight back!" she says about how she handled mistreatment at home.

onna remains very angry with her mother for many reasons, not the least of which was an operation she had when she was 14. Donna was sterilized and she didn't realize it at the time because, she says, her mother gave her misleading information. Now Donna realizes her loss. She loves children and wishes she could have one. "It's not fair," she says. That was a decision she would have liked to have made herself and it is still very upsetting for her, and her husband.

Donna and Ray have been married for ten years now. Ray sells the newspaper as well. He also is handy working on Donna's wheelchair, often looking for alternative parts at auto stores, and doing the maintenance on the chair for Donna. Both Donna and Ray are active citizens and volunteer often with community events and organizations.

Donna misses her father, who passed away a year ago. He was a very understanding man who treated her well, she says.

The people who bring you Spare Change

SPARE

CHANGE

FEBRUARY 15

1996

This newspaper exists because of the efforts of the people who sell it to you on the street, the vendors. For our vendors **Spare Change** is a job that helps them to be independent and self-employed. Each issue we highlight one of our vendors in Vendor Profile to let you know a little bit about the people who bring you **Spare Change.** *

BY HEATHER STUMP



Some of her customers have expressed concern to Donna when she's working outside selling the paper in our bitter cold winter. Unfortunately, there are very few indoor locations for vendors to sell the paper. She bundles up in layers of clothing and continues to work outside. She wants to let people know that when she does get cold, she goes inside for a hot chocolate.

Cerebral palsy, damage to her nervous system which probably occurred when she was born, means Donna can have difficulty controlling her body. Even ordinary speech is sometimes hard, but her mind is another matter. Donna has dreams and hopes and

she's working towards them. One of those dreams is a new wheelchair, with FOUR speeds!

Donna hasn't had much of a chance at education yet, though she went to a private school for a while. But she's working on it now. Donna's learning to read and write with help from the Frontier College literacy program and volunteers from the university. She feels this is vital to breaking through some of the barriers she's faced all her life.

Donna is on assistance for the handicapped but she finds that she just can't survive on it. Some people don't understand that a person in a wheelchair has more basic needs, she says. The wheelchair, itself, for example is costly. She recently replaced

the special battery for \$200, and she says it's not guaranteed to last even a year. Maintaining the wheelchair and the other special living arrangements is very expensive. Donna says it becomes a struggle with day to day living. But Donna goes on. Donna says she is very strong inside and she really enjoys selling Spare Change. She loves the people she meets and it gives her work to do, she's out involved, and even making new friends with other vendors and with customers. At the same time she is happy to have the job and she sure can use the money to get by. ❖

Spare Exists because of people who sell it eet, the vendors. Spare Change them to be inde-

Vendor



Vendor Name

Number

Authorized by

SPARE CHANGE VENDOR'S CODE

- . I will be sober at all times while working
- · I will be polite to all members of the public
- I will vend only in areas that are authorized

All **Spare Change** vendors are required to wear an ID badge (contents above) and abide by a code of conduct. If you have any comments about our vendors, phone our distribution manager in your city (see page 5).

Edmonton • Drayton Valley • Whitecourt • Bonnyville



JOHN HORTON SALES MANAGER

17811 - 107 AVE. edmonton, Alta. T5S 1R6

L

Bus. 483-2050 Fax. 484-3738 L

"We Proudly Support the Efforts of Spare Change"

rom

Corner Pharmacy 15557 Stony Plain Road Edmonton, Albreta, T5P 3ZI 489 5526



Cousin's Deli, Restaurant & Catering

10011-109 St, Edmonton (Peace Hills Trust Bidg.) 424-6044

MUFFINS • CINNAMON BUNS • BREAKFASTS

SANDWICHES • SALADS • SOUPS • HOT MEALS

ALL FRESH FROM OUR KITCHEN
CATERING THROUGHOUT THE DOWNTOWN AREA
(Service also available in French or Spanish)
WITH THIS COUPON: 15% OFF ANY MENU ITEM
or 10% OFF ANY SIZE CATERING ORDER

"Proud to help out with such a worthwhile proram"

CP Rail System 8101 103 Street Edmonton, Alberta T6A 0X5 421-4244

"Good luck Vendors"

BUY, SELL, TRADE

(403) 433-2681 (403) 446-9899



DANWAY MOTORS

10002-82 AVE WHYTE AVE EDMONTON, ALBERTA T6E 1Z3

Donald N. Greenway, C.A.

Donald N. Greenway, Professional Corperation Chartered Accountant

206 Cumbria Centre, 93 Mcleod Ave., Spruce Grove, AB Ph. (403) 962 6366 or fax (403) 962 3990



0-12 YEARS

"Your Childs Happiness Is Our Foremost Concern" MILLWOODS FIRST CHOICE SINCE 1978 461-8208 450 Woodvale Rd. East (38 Ave. & 55 St.) 450-0250 Millwoods Rd. East & 16 A Ave. 461-7481 1541 millwoods Rd. East & 16 A Ave.

463-9622 28 Ave. & Millwoods Rd. 461-2761 23 Ave. & Millwoos Rd. East 462-8776 1603 Knottwood Rd. North (74 St. & Knottwood Rd.

ecently in Calgary laundry workers went on strike to oppose a government plan to privatize their services. They were joined by hospital staff from other professions and the citizens of Calgary were vocal in their support as well. What was it about the strike which made it gather so much support? Did everyone really care about whether laundry was done in Calgary or Edmonton, or whether a handful of people lost their jobs? It seemed that the real issue

was not the laundry but the continual erosion of government-funded health care.
Where will it end? How much more will be cut? What are the intangible cuts we don't see?

There have been many horror stories already. *Stories about hospital care*, not getting needed medicines, or home care

options. The frustrations for many patients and their families have been augmented by the fact that as one nurse puts it, "when we are sick, we are very vulnerable." Nurses and other caregivers are feeling frustrated too. But the frightening part is their silence. In our free and democratic society, many don't speak up because they are afraid for their jobs.

Susan has been a nurse for 29 years and has seen many changes, many for the good, she says. Nurses have gone from being paid a pittance to becoming a respected part of the healing process. But the clock has started to turn back, she says, and Susan is afraid for the patients who are in her care.

Like many nurses, Susan decided on a nursing career because she "cares passionately" about helping people. That caring can make a crucial difference. According to Mary, another nurse, "If you're going to make a difference in a person's health you have to reach them on an

the heart out of health care?

BY CLAUDETTE LANGUEDOC

emotional level." Mary is angry about the changes she has been forced to make because of cuts in the hospital where she works.

The biggest impact, according to both Susan and Mary, is that nurses no longer have the time to "hold hands and comfort." When a nurse has to wake up and feed eleven people she doesn't have the time to do it properly. She can get everyone fed and bathed, but an important element of the job, and of the patient's healing process, is not there: caring contact. "Illness is intimate and personal," says Susan, and nurses are there because they want to be a part of that intimate and personal healing. This lack of personal contact is creating a disenchantment within the profession that affects us all.

FEBRUARY 15

1996

Each doctor and nurse is different, but we tend to leave the surgery to the doctors and the recovery to the nurses. Families are critical in the recovery process too, but the day-to-day care and contact that a patient receives from the nurse can make a huge difference. Families often cannot be there all the time and it is when a patient feels the most vulnerable and alone that a caring nurse can mean the difference between despair and optimism. That can make the difference between a speedy recovery and a slow one. It's easy to see the logic of easing the burden on nurses. Speedier recoveries cost a lot less for the system.

Nurses are the front-line workers of our health care system. They are feeling frustrated, over-worked and under-valued. They want the space to "hold hands and comfort". It is in our own best interests, both financially and emotionally, to allow them to do that. We may need to make some financial cuts to the health care system, but let's not cut out its heart. •

DASH TOURS

1996 WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

MARCH 21 - 24 IN EDMONTON INDIVIDUAL PACKAGES AVAILABLE FOR

MEN'S & LADIE'S GOLD MEDAL PERFORMANCES

U-Drive, Motorcoach & Air Packages Availiable

CALL 24 HOURS A DAY
For Complete Details
and Reservations

441-1994 in Edmonton 560-2234 in Calgary 955-4444 in Saskatoon

DASH TOURS



THE PASTORAL INSTITUTE OF EDMONTON

offers affordable counselling by experienced qualified counsellors for individuals, couples and families issues: relationships, communication, childhood & family of origin, self-esteem, sexual abuse, family violence, anger management, depression etc.

482-2424 00, 10235 - 124 Stree

#300, 10235 - 124 Street Edmonton, AB

26 years in Alberta!

SAND AND GRAVEL LTD.

L & T Mix Sand & Gravel Ltd., 2nd Floor, 8020 - 50th St., Leduc, AB T9E 7G3
Phone (403) 986-6721 After hours (403) 986-1890

PROUD TO SERVICE CLIENTELE

EDITORIAL · Opinion

Possibly fatal weather

eather stood out in the street and flagged down the passing police car, which pulled right up, took a look and then drove on. She was appalled. Lying in the snow on the sidewalk was a man, probably very inebriated, whom Heather had stopped to help.

It was cold that day, very cold, like so many days were this winter.

Bill had to help another man, again stuck out in the cold. He helped the fellow zip up his jacket, and straighten up his pants in the -30 weather. Tightening up his clothes protected him a bit more from the weather but, even though the fellow wasn't feeling cold much, Bill couldn't just leave him there by the side of the road. A taxi stopped but wouldn't take the man, the driver practically beating him away from the cab. Sure the guy was slurring his words, but who wouldn't if they were that cold? it's one of the first signs of hypothermia, too. Finally, about 45 minutes after Bill first stopped and after Bill's feet were about frozen solid, the police drove up.

"Not the cops," the man complained, but the officers gently helped him to the car, chauffeurs, in this case, to some place warm and safe. Bill, with the help of the kind officers, could quite possibly have saved this man's life.

Heather knew, too, that it was a life-or-death situation for the fellow she came across on the sidewalk.

Like the police car that passed her, she'd been driving by, but stopped and got out to see how to get the man to shelter. He might have been drunk, but he's human too, she said, outraged that the police officer had driven on past. Other people stopped to help, they took the man to a nearby medical clinic where staff assured them they'd get the fellow to a shelter that could care for him.

People have frozen to death on the streets this winter. And very likely many more deaths have probably been prevented by good Samaritans like Heather and Bill

Sometimes you just run into that painful moment, do I stop? What should I do? Can I help? What should you do if you find someone unable to care for themselves in the cold? If you don't know where to take them, call the police, the people at the emergency shelters tell us. The police know what to do and how to handle it. They'll help and take someone to a shelter or hospital if necessary.

The word "STREET"...

Street drugs, street life, street people, out on the street, the word "street" seems to have built itself a reputation. In some circles, being "street" is good. There's pride in being "street", in having survived. It's a passport to being part of a family.

One news article recently described this newspaper as entirely produced by street people, and some of the

Spare Change

Helping People Help Themselves

ferent people who work to bring you this paper objected. Professional writers, designers and volunteers of many backgrounds work on this project.

Many different people, with very different backrounds, buy the paper too. Some of the readers are "street", most are not.

Recently we've been considering a new name for this newspaper. It's a dicey question, changing the name, especially of such a well-known institution as this publication. We have to consider it carefully. Street came up in many of the suggestions, but we pondered what it really meant and whether it reflected the paper. Many of the people who sell the paper are "street", they have had the hard knocks, been around, they're "street-smart". Many of the other vendors aren't at all "street", they just need the money to keep their apartment, feed themselves, make ends meet.

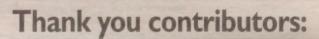
All in all we decided to pass on "street". It implies too much, too much overtone that for many people is negative. But we don't want to lose out on the "street" part that is a vital part of this paper. Keep the street, but maybe just not in the name. Watch for more about our name in coming issues. •

KEITH WILEY

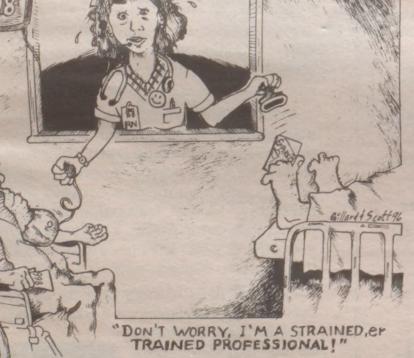
involved

there are

many dif-



- Heather Stump Claudette Languedoc Gilliard & Scott Shirley Serviss
- Linda Dumont Darryl Martin Mardge Kelly Deanna Douglas
- Allison Kydd Neale Wiley for cover illustration Susan Andrews for the crossword puzzle. •





Spare Change Relping People Holp Themselves

SPARE

CHANGE

FEBRUARY 15

1996

Publishers: Bissell Centre, Calgary Urban Project Society, Edmonton City Centre Church Corporation General Manager: Gord Poschwatta Editor: Keith Wiley Proofreader: Megan Collins Design & Layout: Jang & Willson Design

EDMONTON:

Bissell Centre
10527-96 Street • Edmonton • AB • T5H 2H6
Phone: 423-2285 • Ext. 47 • Fax: 429-7908
Paper Distribution • Heather Stump

CALGARY:

Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS)
128 - 7th Avenue SE • Calgary • AB • T2G 0H5
Phone: 221-8790 • Fax: 221-8791
Paper Distribution • Ed Greanya

1996 · VOLUME 3

117A - 20th Street West Saskatoon • SK • S7M 0W7 Phone: 664-8848 • Fax: 664-8842 Paper Distribution • Linda Biggs

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

sparechg@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

CALL THE EDITOR: Phone: 1-800-882-5954

Spare Change is published to provide an income opportunity for economically marginalized people in our society while communicating about their issues to the public.

For advertising rates and information, please contact Steve Rodda of SMRT Consulting at 944-1466

Spare Change welcomes your contribution.
Letters sent to the editor are assumed to be for publication, unless otherwise indicated. Spare Change welcomes written submissions, particularly those on IBM or Mac compatible computer disk, cartoons, photographs or artwork. Spare Change cannot accept responsibility

for any submission. No part of this newspaper may be reproduced in any form without written permission from **Spare Change**.

Opinions expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of **Spare Change**, the editors or publishers.





SPARE

FEBRUARY IS

Staffan Gallery

Looking for unique art to compliment your decor?

Then you should make the drive to Staffan Gallery in Willingdon.

There you'll discover the southwesterninspired ceramics created by Julie Gawryliuk, who has been involved in ceramics for 26 years and a certified teacher for the past 18. Gawryliuk's collection of decorative vases reflects her fascination with the scenery and

local colour oranzona. The vases teature scenes that a etched, then painted and accented with 22 karaf gold

To go with the southwestern look the gallery offers ceramic accent pieces including cattle and buffalo skulls, lizards, snakes and large cacti.

In addition, Staffan Gallery has the Canadian Heritage Collection, a line which features Canadian scenes, also accented with 22 karat gold. The collection now includes eight pieces and a new one is added every six months or so.

These fine ceramics are available by special order in any desired colour. In both collections the middle to larger pieces are all signed and numbered and a certificate of authenticity is provided. Lay-away is available.

R.R #1 Willingdon, Alta. TOB 4R0 Phone/Fax (403) 367-2438 Julie Gawryliuk Artist

See our booth at the Mill Woods Craft Market in the Mill Woods Towne Centre Mall

Our warmest hello to all our brothers and sisters across the nation

A message from Chief Abraham Hunter, Members & Elders of



Weenusk First Nation

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00p.m. P.O. Box 1, Peawanuck, ON POL 2HO

Ph. (705) 473-2554 Fax (705) 473-2503

songs of the street

BY FIONA MCNAIR

"It's not unlike losing your virginity," said Scott Wicken, emcee for the first annual 'Songs of the Street' inner-city poetry night. Held January 31 at the Gibson Block, the event drew over one hundred people out on one of the coldest nights of the new year. It was sponsored by the Inner City Pastoral Ministry and Spare Change newspaper. Local businesses provided prizes and judging in each of the nine categories. More than 150 poems were entered for the evening's contest.

Wicken says the majority of the poets were first-time readers who have a lot of guts. Sharing personal thoughts and feelings on a stage with strangers can be an unnerving experience explained Wicken, a local poet and singer.

The poetry presented highlighted unique experiences with common threads.

It's not a lucrative profession but this (poetry) tells a lot about people's struggles, says Keith Wiley, editor of Spare Change. The paper regularly receives submissions of original work. While Spare Change is only able to publish some of it, it always receives a good reaction from readers according to Wiley. This positive feedback became the motivator for the event as well as a tentative plan to publish a small book of inner city poetry in the future.

The categories chosen by the organizers included women's issues, the gay and lesbian experience, and prison life. Presenter for the women's issues category, Linda Howitt, said most of the submissions in her category were about violence against women.

"Whether you are in rural Alberta or 'ritzville' Edmonton, abuse is abuse," said Howitt.

Howitt, a survivor of domestic violence says, "I have been there, and I'm out. It is a wonderful life."

Poet Micky was disappointed that hers was the lone submission on gay and lesbian life. "We love and we're a part of this place," she said. "It is too bad there aren't more people here who would stand up and be counted."

Mark Shafirovitch who works part-time as a door-to-door salesman combined witty humour with a never ending rhyme scheme in his poem about being jailed, the winner in the prison category. He says he writes poetry, "to catch someone's attention." He recited his poems from memory because, he says, "the truth is easy to remember." Modest, Safirovitch doesn't expect his reality-based poems to transform lives. But he does hope illustrating their story may offer comfort with lines like: "The time it takes to go from thick to thin, depends only on the rut you're in."

Comfort and a friendly ear is all most inner city people need, says Richard McDiarmid, a worker in the inner-city. "Many of

ly, with bad luck or have lost their wife and kids.
This is a great thing to do for them," he says.

An employee and resident of the Salvation Army hostel, the evening reminded him of the 'beatnik' scene of the sixties. "When culture fails the whole system crashes," he says. *



More than Money

How many seek for the same position? A dead end, low pay reality. Should I give up my dreaming ambitions And settle in sad mediocrity?

What grows as they pass away
Is, where I am and could be
If I'd money, which today
Makes money which makes money...

Poverty is "no money", so they say
No money finds no food to devour
Hunger has hid health and colour away
Sick complexions send spirits sour.

Poor esteem, to lower faith Lack of hope, is low of trust Dishonesty's loss of face Has no respect, and is cus't.

But a little aid, give to them discussed
Builds self-esteem, for accepting truths
From dust, must, rust just one hope helps adjust
Towards the higher spirits light that soothes.

As respect brings brighter face Not with ill, but energy Eat a meal, enjoying taste Earned theirself, and glad to be.

If only I had a blessing, a chance
I try and my ideas die, folded
Up against poverty's still stubborn stance
With inertia, such as a, cold mud.

If I get out of this thing
As I trust, I will, I must
I'll recall the suffering
Always, but the "Good Bye" most.

A captivating curiosity:
Disciplines, desires, devotions
Unique virtues determined divinely
Contemplations or a man's creations.

Sell for less than status and Sex, security, power Money may not buy love, and They often leave together.

Necessity born of grief and sorrow, is Mother of motivation and desire Who but sacrifice to rise and follow, is Opportunity and enthusiasm's sire?

Be eternally grateful And need only what you own So find you by God's great will Richly blessed and not alone!

Darryl Martin
Winner, The Poverty Category

some of the winning poetry

The Victim

Together we create and recreate the cycle of wrath I, like a web wrapped fly, a light-riveted rabbit In your path.

Your words fall into the stillness one by one And fear becomes a living presence in the room I'm poised to run.

I remain mute, impaled, incredulous, bound for each word I say

Even my glance, the look on my face, the way I sit You read the wrong way.

Though you destroy me, I cannot break free, And you in your fury, always blame me.

Linda Dumont Winner in the Women's Issues Category



Handwork

Her grandmother's tatted lace along the edge of white

towel out of place in the doorless bathroom

of the basement suite with the broken window

Glass all over the bedspread her grandmother

quilted in the dark corner of the other room

she wears only a bathrobe drinks one beer after

another smokes one cigarette after another

Bruises from her lover's fingers embroidered on her neck

Shirley Serviss
Runner-up in the Women's Issues

Category

Who we are

We come from all walks of life.
Some married some not.
Some with children some not.
Some with grandchildren

some not.
The only difference is
when our young ones ask us,
"What does life hold?",

we have no choice but to answer:

Put up with the insults the labelling the accusations

the jeers the persecutions the sneers.

You come from the wrong side of town.

You're a bum.
You're not rich.

You have no rights.
When a crime is committed from the wrong side of town the whole world hears of it

loud and clear
That's ok –you're a bum.
You have no rights.

You're not rich.

But let the shoe be on the other foot –
that's ok, we'll cover up.

You're not a bum.
You don't come from the slum.
You have the rights.
You're rich.

We are the forgotten the unwanted the rejects

the bums

the slum.

Oh freedom where are you?

Oh equity, when are we going to see you?

When will we be equals

living in peace and harmony

no matter what race, creed

or education?

That's who we are meant to be.

Mardge Kelly Runner up, The Poverty Category

Thank you
Spare Change and the Inner City
Pastoral Ministry would like to thank
the sponsors of songs of the streets:
Edmonton City Centre Church
Corporation, The Learning Centre,
Prestige Court Reporting, Bissell Second
Chance, Passion Records, Orlando
Books, Greenwood's Bookshoppe BoyleMacCauley Health Centre. Thanks to
THIRD FROM THE SUN (photos) who
made great music. And a special thank
you to the Clifford E. Lee Foundation.

7

SPARE CHANGE

FEBRUARY 15





SPARE

CHANGE

FEBRUARY IS

VIA THE GREYHOUND

Some things bred so deep; one can't get them out a

The story this far: Emily continues grieving for all the things she's lost, especially for her lover Jeremy. Because more and more memories are surrounding her, and most of them are painful, she fixes her attention on the good-looking bus driver. She's pretty certain he's interested in her as well.

Willing herself not to look back, Emily slid by him and started to make her way down the aisle and out of the bus. Of course she wasn't moving very fast, if he wanted to catch up with her. It was awkward holding her leather coat around her neck with one hand and lugging her purse and carry-on bag with the other.

Besides that, she was stiff from sitting so long in one place. And she had cramps again. With all the crapstull she'd been oating since yesterday afternoon when she got on the bus, it was no wonder.

She hoped she wasn't going to be sick again. If there was a God, surely He couldn't be so mean as to let her

throw up right in front of this nice, good-looking guy.

Pretty soon she was almost at the door and he still hadn't tried to stop her. This was different, a man who didn't try to chase her. She didn't quite know how to handle that, so she was relieved when he called out just as she started down the steps.

"My name's Larry," he said, "I always check into the Salisbury House when I'm finished my run. If you don't see me, ask for me. Somebody'll know."

Then she was alone again, more alone than ever. God knows she needed a nice, uncomplicated guy, a guy with a manly look about him, the kind of look which made her feel safe. So why'd she turned her back on him?

Why'd it seem so important to make this phone call? It wasn't as if she could expect something good to come out of it. Jeremy'd alread made his position perfectly clear. And why should he forgive her anyway? He wasn't the one who'd been screwing around.

Well, it wasn't the first time she'd put herself on the line. Maybe she owed him that much, after twelve years. Anyway, she was going to try.

If she could only find a few dollars change in this place. The ticket windows away down at the other end of the terminal didn't look too promising. What a depressing place this was at night, all that space with nothing but empty plastic seats to look at!

She couldn't tell whether the ticket windows were closed or not, so she imagined finding them closed. Or maybe the agents would be tired and grouchy at the end of the day. Emily hated having to deal with grouchy people. Seemed as if they always wanted to think the worst of her. When she was younger she'd kind of enjoy

giving them back as good as she got. But now, it just made her feel tired and worthless.

Maybe if she asked about her

ticket she'd have an excuse. Then it wouldn't seem such a bother to get two or three dollars worth of coins.

Would that be enough?

She guessed it'd get her through to Toronto anyway. And if he seemed to want to know, it would give her time to tell him where she was, that she was okay.

If he seemed to care . .

"Excuse me, sir, I'm sorry to trouble you, but I'm not sure what I should do with my ticket. Is this still good?"

Emily didn't like the meek sound of her voice. Like she was always apologizing for something. It didn't matter how tough she got, how rich and classy she looked though not now maybe, it'd been a long trip and she wasn't feeling well - but at certain times her voice still sounded like somebody begging on a street corner. Some things were bred so deep that could never get them out.

Marty'd hated it when her voice sounded like that.

"No wonder you women get abused," he'd said.

Damn Marty.

"Let me see your ticket, miss," said the agent quite pleasantly. He even smiled at her. She mustn't be looking quite as bad as she felt after all.

He handed the ticket back.

"That'll take you all the way to Vancouver just fine, or any of the places in between. Just show it to the driver when you get on. You've got a forty minute wait before the last bus west to-night. Make sure you don't miss it. Unless you've got some place to stay."

"Thanks, and, oh yes, could I get change for the telephone?

Quite a lot. I have to phone home.

Why'd she tell him all that stuff? Toronto." What did he care?

When Emily found the pay phone and started to dial she was still wondering if this was a smart thing to do. What if Jeremy wasn't home? What if he hung up on her?

What if he told he she was a whore and that he never wanted to see her again?

Jeremy'd never said that kind of thing to her, but there was always a first time, and what he had said hurt almost as much. He'd said he needed someone he could trust, someone who could look after herself and meet him as an equal.

He wasn't being fair, blaming her for all that. But it was too late to start defending herself when the door was being shut in her face.

So why on earth was she making this phone call now? Why on earth was she putting herself through

Emily'd just about convinced this? herself that she hoped he wouldn't be there. Then he answered.

She heard the operator's voice too and the rattle of the coins as she poked them into the metal slot. Her hands were shaking, and it seemed to take forever.

"Emily," he said, "is that you, Emily?"

Her voice was shaky too. "Yeah, Jeremy."

She liked the feel of his name in her mouth. She felt as if she was going to cry again. She thought of the way his skin was so soft at the back of his neck. Of the way he held her sometimes. Both arms around her and their bodies rocking a little together. Just like you can't help rocking when you're holding a baby.

"Where the hell are you?" He seemed to be fighting to get control of himself.

"Winnipeg."

"Winnipeg? What're you doing in Winnipeg? You don't have anybody in Winnipeg."

"I, I don't know, I just took the bus."

"Are you alone? Or did you pick up some guy along the way?"

Emily felt herself go silent. The tears of joy when he'd sounded concerned about her turned cold on her cheeks. How dare he ask her that? But she knew the answer.

"Emily," his voice was gentler now. "Are you all right? Do you have enough money? You didn't even take your clothes.

"I'm all right," she managed.

The mechanical operator voice cut in then, and there was no more change, no more time for her to say anything.

She thought she heard him say "call me when you know where you're going", but she couldn't be sure.

The dial tone came on the line while she was still standing there, coat slipping down off one shoulder, carry-on bag crammed onto the shelf beside the phone, half the c tents of her purse - comb, lipstick, wallet - spread out in front of her.

Emily placed the receiver carefully back into its holder and began to gather up her things. *

End of installment eight to be continued.



Margaret York, champio

was sliding past a funeral home this morning when I thought of vanity and Margaret York

There are far too many teenagers on the streets wearing summer clothing in the dead of winter. Huddled around bus stops, draped in the lightest of jackets, their soft pink feet protected from ankle deep snow by the most porous of sneakers, teenagers make their final stand against the most powerful of authorities - nature.

Margaret York was such a teenager.

In Flatt, Alberta, Compost Capital of Canada, the winters were grudgingly endured. Old Peavey, THE WORLD'S LOUDEST BARBER and amateur meteorologist, used to call it "THE ARCTIC PRESSURE FRONT."

"SPARKY," he'd say. 'THIS PRESSURE FRONT BEGINS IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE WHERE IT GETS PISSIN' MAD AT MANKIND AND SWEEPS IN ON CITIES AND TOWNS WITH A DETER-MINED VENGEANCE, LOOKING TO KILL US ALL OFF."

I would laugh at his hyperbole. We all would. But teenagers are the same all over. At Flatt Composite and Industrial Tech, freezing to death in winter was a kind of unofficial school sporting event.

Margaret York won the gold medal every winter. She began like everyone else. Jean jacket at thirty below. Sneakers. White tube socks. No gloves. Certainly no toque. A scarf meant instant disqualification and Margaret York knew it. Margaret York knew the rules.

Until she started writing them.

CHANGE

FEBRUARY 15

Winter, 1980: No socks under sneakers. No jacket, only a light cotton oxford shirt over a tee shirt. Not buttoned. Sleeves rolled up.

Winter, 1981: No overshirt. Only a tee shirt. jeans, no socks, and sneakers.

In the bitterly remembered winter of '82. with Flatt enjoying its first day at 36 below, Margaret showed up to school wearing what can only be described as beachwear.

Halter top. Shorts. Sandals

We kids were in awe.

Now, you have to understand that I never competed in the games. I preferred to remain a spectator. In extremely cold weather I could be found swaddled in as many heavy fibers as would allow me forward motion. My mother dressed me for school every winter until I graduated.

Margaret York despised me. After school, as I would take the usual twenty minutes saddling on my many coats and scarves, Margaret York would stand outside the door, in ankle deep snow, waiting for me. Then she would walk home with me, never shivering, silently bearing it. When I'd get to my door, she'd just laugh and walk away.

That day in the bitterly remembered winter of '82, she trotted away in halter top, shorts and sandals. Her proudest moment.

She died on the way home. Mowed over by a snow removal vehicle. The driver said she strutted in front of him as if she believed that snow, and therefore snow removal vehicles, could not possibly exist.

"IT'S THE ARCTIC PRESSURE FRONT," Peavey commented at her funeral. "IT MAKES US INSANE. IT TRICKS US. IT KNOWS THE HUMAN MIND."

They later found a box in the York family shed. In it was Margaret York's hidden parka, sweater, wool socks, gloves, boots, scarf and glasses.

We kids never even knew she wore glasses. �

Physical Therapy Services

Funding Sources

• WCB

• Private

- Government Coverage
- Insurance Plan
- st. michaels extended care centre ocepegok oniku im. cs. apx. muxaika
- Additions
- Free Parking
- Wheelchair
- Access Theraputic
- Pool
- Accupunture

Hours: Monday to Friday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday 8a.m. to 4 p.m. phone: 472 4501



Park Avenue Specialties Ltd.

Phone: (403) 467-4071 Fax: (403) 467-2351 E-Mail Address: Parkave@mail.sas.ab.ca Promotional Products • Safety & Service Awards Business Gifts • Corporate Wear • Golf Accessories #6, 140 Athabascan Avenue, Sherwood Park

Alberta, Canada T8A 4E3



Royal Cuts - Unisex

Family Hair & Nail Care at Affordable, Everyday Low Prices!

SENIORS GET 15% OFF REG. **EVERY MONDAY & TUESDAY.** "WE STRIVE TO SATISFY"

Westmount Shopping Ctr. 111 Ave & Groat Rd

Northwood Mall 137 Ave & 97 St

Village Tree Mall St. Albert

MERIDIAN VILLAGE MALL STONY PLAIN, AB (403) 963-6821

New Stock Arrivingf Weekly

Toys • Nails & screws • Candy
Cards • Christmas Stock • Kitchen Utensils
• and Lots Lots More
• Open to Stock Suggestions

We have the LOOT with SAVINGS to BOOT!

HOURS: MON., TUES., WED., SAT., - 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M. THURS., Fl., - 9A.M. TO 9 P.M. PRESANT THIS AD AND PAY NO G.S.T.

FINNING Count On Us

Lo-Lo's Homemaking Services

Finally The Homemaking Service You've Been Waiting For!

- · Cooking · Cleaning · Catering and Service · Errands ·
- · Shopping · Consultation · Pet Care · Sitting of all kinds ·
- Laundry Service Handyman Jobs Garbage Removal · Yardwork & Snow Removal · Personal Care ·

9549 - 74 Ave. Edmonton, AB T6E 1E4

Ph: (403) 413-0981 Fax: (403) 413-0982

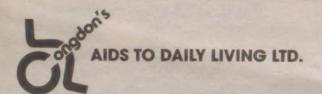
- Dr. Bryun Sigfstead-

Suite 300 Park Place Professional Centre 2018 Sherwood Drive Sherwood Park, Alberta

Telephone: 467-1011

206, 596 Riverbend Square Rabbit Hill Road & Terwillegar Drive Edmonton, Alberta Telephone: 436-5600

ORTHODONTIST.



15819 Stony Plain Road Edmonton, Alberta T5P 3Z7 Toll-Free Alberta: 1-800-252-9368

Bus. (403) 483-1762 Fax (403) 489-6813



Happy to help those who help themselves

102 10350 124 Street





John R. White Regional Manager, Alberta

EMPIRE FINANCIAL GROUP Suite 410 - 340 12th Ave. S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2R 1P5 Bus; 269-1000 Fax: 269-1418

representing Empire Life

Denise Lawton Owner/decorator

Office: (403) 491-0655



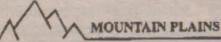
Drapery · Furniture · Carpet · Wallcovering



United Farmers of Alberta
Co-operative Limited

1016 · 68 Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta,T2V 4J2 Mailing Address: Box 5350, Stn. A. Calgary, Alberta, T2H 2J9

Part of our Community



COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY OF EDMONTON

Byery Child Has The Right To A Family

#301, 9006 - 132 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta TSE 0Y2 Phone: (403) 478-5990 Fax: (403) 478-6189

447-4300



21020-107 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta Box 477 Winterburn, Alberta TOE 2NO

MOVIE · Review

Mr Holland's Opus

o judge from the commercials for Mr. Holland's Opus, you might expect another sappy teacher's movie; a reluctant teacher, kids with problems, and magical, easy solutions. And you would be right. But behind the formula, there are some real, difficult issues raised – often with no answers at all.

Richard Dreyfuss, the teacher at the centre of it all, carries the film, and ages beautifully in the process. Glenn Holland is a musician who is forced to give up his dream for a year and take the only nine to five, paying job he is qualified for; teaching in a high school. But the realities of life intervene and, as one year blends into the next, he

finds himself unable to quit, and his dream slowly fades.

Mr. Holland's Opus chronicles the slow transformation that he unwillingly allows to take hold of his life, and the implications on those around him. And in the process it raises a number of issues that affect our lives, every day.

One of those areas is, of course, education; should quality schooling for the handicapped be

public, and thus affordable to all? Can we legitimately cut teachers' salaries in the face of the long hours they put in? Mr. Holland's sacrifice of his personal time and the painful results for his family are typical of many career educators.

By following the same character and school for most of a lifetime, Mr. Holland's Opus also

demonstrates the changing expectations we have for our schools. Perhaps most of all it can remind us that education is about more than the "basics" we hear so much about today; children need good teachers, and they need a system that helps them learn how to think, a particularly pertinent topic in today's prairie provinces.

I was also challenged by the way Mr. Holland had to put some

thinking skills to work in his own life as he struggled to relate to his deaf son. Whether or not you are a teacher, it is good to be reminded of the number of different kinds of people you impact throughout your lifetime. There are no easy solutions for the problems of so many who are hurting in our cities, but we do need to be involved, and we do need to care. ❖







.

SPARE

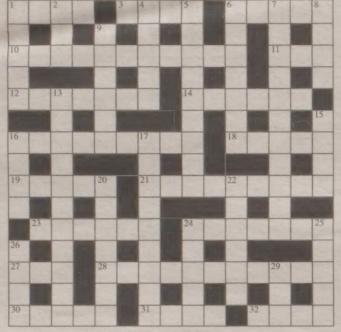
FEBRUARY IS

CROSSWORD · Puzzle 26

ACRO

- To heat parts and join them together (4)
- Be knocked over by a kitchen utensil? (4)
- Spicy French-Louisiana cooking (5)
- 10 Way of telling one from the other (II)
- 11 Supposedly used for violin strings: cat_(3)
- 12 Protects toe from damage (7)
- 14 Incompetent (6)
- 16 Collapsed star that swallows light (5,4)
- 18 Yelled at an unwelcome animal (5)
- 19 Thrills (5)
- 21 Male buddy or lover (3,6)
- To affix something (6) 23
- Inventors' rights to their inventions (7)
- Groove made be a wheel (3) 27
- Small drums with loose disks, shaken (II)
- 30 Mark of honour (5)
- 31 Moves head up and down (4)
- 32 History's first murder victim (4)

BY SUSAN ANDREWS



D O

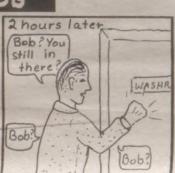
- Card game (5)
- Falsehood (3)
- Terrible intestines? (5)
- Slow, unhurried manner (9)
- French brandies (7)
- Vampires go for this (7,4)
- Musical sound or brief message (4)
- Offensive action (6)
- 13 Released, freed (11)
- 15 In the middle (4)
- 16 To cook with dry heat (4)
- 17 Official who investigates complaints (9)
- 20 Staff carried as a sign of authority (7)
- 22 To stunt growth (6)
- 24 Haughty (5)
- 25 Cordage made from agave (5)
- 26 Grumpy crustacean? (4)
- 29 Slang: to arrest (3)

Puzzle 26 answers will be published in the March I issue of Spare Change.

Answers to February | Crossword #25 KNACK SOMNOLENT DILETTANTES UNI G T S T II E LISTE HILLSIDES O A N E E I VICTIMS DRESSED E R S F T E GUFFAWS RINT ACATER F U R BRITANNIA R C R S N I O T C I T M P R U D E N T L Y N A E O L N O E

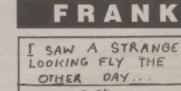
SOUPLINE BOB



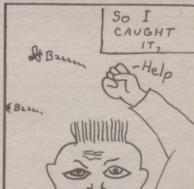


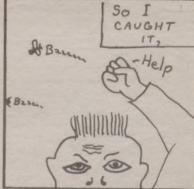
















OVERKILL









Wander-Bunder &





n





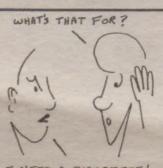
SMOKE ?

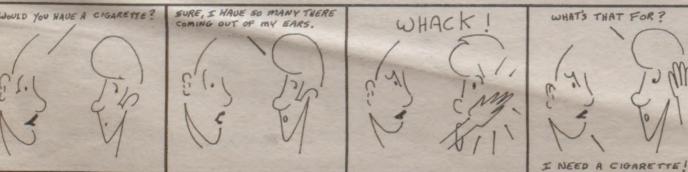


SPARE

CHANGE

FEBRUARY IS





Kind Supporters

Thanks to the following businesses and organizations whose generous support helps make this newspaper possible each issue:

All Glass & Mirror Ltd. Edmonton, AB 483-9561

Altex Heat Exchanger Ltd. 6831 - 42 Street Edmonton, AB T6B 2X1 468-6862

Ana's Herbal Tree 4917 - 52 Avenue Stony Plain, AB T7Z1T5 963-2106

Annunciation Parish 9420 - 163 Street Edmonton, AB T5R 0A7 484-6534

Avco Financial Services Canada Ltd. 7910 - 104 Street Edmonton, AB T6E 4C8 439-6351

Canada Mat Ltd. 5535 - 97 Street Edmonton, AB T6E 3H8 448-3630

Century Shell 7535 - 75 Street Edmonton, AB T6C 4H8 469-7732

Dufferin Appliance Service Ltd. 9622 - 158 Street Edmonton, AB TSP 2W8 483-0698

Eagle Awards 1071 Parker Drive Sherwood Park, AB T8A 1C7 464-4853

Elite Lithographers Ltd. 17225 - 109 Avenue Edmonton, ABT5S 1H7 486-0576

Grabbajaba 60 Canada Place Edmonton, AB T5J 4C3 424-2821

Hair Creations 9406 - 91 Street Edmonton, AB T6C 3P4

Hair Loft 224 Baseline Village Sherwood Park, AB T8H IS8 449-1999

Heidel's Upholstery Edmonton AB

Hi Tech Seals Inc. 5903 - 92 Street Edmonton, AB T6E 3A5

Laurentian Financial Services 10250 - 102 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5S 0V1 428-9438

Little Lamb Christian Daycare 15333 Castledowns Road Edmonton, AB T5X 3X7 472-1777

Londonderry Tailors U-42 Londonderry Mall Edmonton, AB T5C 3C8 473-5977

Monnex Insurance Brokers Ltd. 500 - 10020 - 101A Avenue Edmonton, AB T5| 3G2 429-1112

Mr. Dean Bailey 620 - 10180 - 101 Street Edmonton, AB T5J 0K1 428-7544

National Money Mart 15207 Stony Plain Road Edmonton, AB T5P 3Y4 483-2274

Northwest Drug 10931 - 177 Street Edmonton, AB TSJ 2P9

Quebecor Printing Edmonton 18130 - 114 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5S 2E8 452-0720

Queens Tailoring & Drycleaning 107 - 8170 - 50 Street Edmonton, AB T6B 1E6 439-6351

R&RYard Maintenance 12735 - 117 Street Edmonton, AB T5E 5J6 951-1407

R. Staples & Sons Blading 66 Apach Crescent Leduc, AB T9E 4H4

RAH Computer Support 2426 - 104 Street Edmonton, AB T6| 4|8 437-2224

Raptor Tattoo 11444 - 124 Street Edmonton, AB T5M 0K3 455-2952

Rust Scaffold Services of Canada 2102 - 102 Avenue Edmonton, ABT6P IW3 467-1587

Sinclair Supply Ltd. 10914 - 120 Street Edmonton, AB T5H 3P7 455-4564

The Spinning Wheel 11062 - 51 Avenue Edmonton, ABT6H 0L4 434-5779

Tiny Tots Daycare Ltd. 7246B - 101 Avenue Edmonton, AB T6A 011 466-0249



The

"I'd have to ugly-up for that."

- Actress Joan Collins, on the prospect of portraying Camilla Parker Bowles.

"How many millions? Millions, millions, millions. millions, the pig."

> - Roseanne Barr, on the size of her ex-husband's divorce settlement.

"I've never been a very good businessman."

- Beatles producer George Martin, revealing that he was paid only 5 pounds for arranging Yesterday.

"He's been overcome by emulsion."

- British Tory press officer Paul Hooper after Tory Chair Brian Mawhinney was covered in paint by protestors.

Orchard Cafe

#4 - 11, Bellerose Dr. Inglewood towne Centre St. Albert T8N 5E1 PH: 460-6788

rotork actuation

Rotork Controls (Canada) Ltd. #9, 820 - 28 Street N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2A 6K1 Telephone: (403) 569-9455 Fax: (403) 569-9414



CHANGE

EBRUARY IS

LOUIS BULL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

PHONES: (403) 585-3967. (403) 585-3860 (403) 585-3978 (403) 585-3799 BOX 130, HOBBEMA, ALBERTA TOC 1NO



ADRIAN'S BAKERY (1987) LTD

QUALITY KOSHER BREADS AND ROLLS **OUR FINE EUROPEAN BREADS AND ROLLS** ARE AVAILABLE AT YOUR FAVOURITE STORES OR VISIT US AT 9850 62 AVENUE EDMONTON PHONE 435-2240

Alan W.R. McGee, B.A., B.Comm., CMA Certified Management Accountant

CMA

Member of the Society of Management Accountants of Alberta

9835 - 169 Avenue NW Edmonton, Alberta T5X 3A3 Tel: (403) 476-1255 Fax: (403) 457-6951

Philp & Company

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS An Association of Independent Law Practices

> JIM D. BRAIDEN B.A., LL.B.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA, T5S 1G9 TELEPHONE (403) 484-8708 FAX (403) 484-8894 RES (403) 432-0551

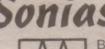


WALL & SMITH PAINTING LTD.

53016 HWY 60 #561 ACHESON RD. ACHESON INDUSTRIAL PARK SPRUCE GROVE, AB, T7X 3G7 OFF: (403) 483-WALL (9255) FAX: (403) 962-1052

Tools and support every entrepreneur needs to develop a stable, profitable business Ongoing research programs identify market trends, business developments and modern buying patterns, keeping Watkins on the cutting edge High income potential through Integrated, Network Marketing Quality products with unconditional 100% guarantee Over a century of solid, ongoing integrity If you are seriously contemplating your future financial security, take a close look at the Watkins home-based business opportunity.

Call Independent Marketing Directors at 1-800-410-1620.



Sonias Grocery Box 539, Hobbema, AB TOC 1NO

Tel (403) 585-2032 fax (403) 585-2359



Head Office:

Bonnyville, Alberta 24 Hr: 1-403-826-3889 Edm. Direct: 426-5537 Fax: 1-403-826-4301 1-800-661-3290

GENERAL FREIGHT

CONTRACT HAULING • SPECIAL COMMODITIES SERVING: ALBERTA · SASKATCHEWAN · MANITOBA · B.C. · ONTARIO · QUEBEC · N.W.T.



Montana Tribal Administration

P.O. Box 70 Hobbema, Alberta TOC INO Phone: 585 3744 Edmonton: 429 4065 Fax: 585 3264

